

09/945,047

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V200-0301 (VGT 0162 PUS)

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the existing title of the invention with:

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR FUEL CELL CONTROL

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0006] In carrying out the above objects and other objects and features of the present invention, a control system and a method are provided for separately controlling variables such as the mass flow, pressure, temperature, humidification, and utilization of air and fuel, to adjust the voltage of a fuel cell stack. According to the present invention, the fuel cell is directly paralleled to the energy storage device without the need for a power conversion stage. The fuel cell voltage is controlled in such a manner that it is made compatible with voltage characteristics of the energy storage device as a function of load current and the state of charge of the storage device.

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0010] FIGURE 1 is a schematic of a prior art fuel cell control system having a power conversion stage between the fuel cell and the energy storage device;

Please replace paragraph [0016] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0016] Figure 1 shows a prior art fuel cell control system 10 having a dc/dc power conversion stage 12. The purpose of the power conversion stage 12 is to interface the fuel cell 14 with an energy storage device 16, such as a battery (shown) or an ultracapacitor (not shown) and a load 18. It is also possible to use the power conversion stage 12 to interface the fuel cell 14 directly to the load 18.